

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Monday, January 26, 2015

A NEW TRUST



Obama, Modi Declare New Era in US-India Relations

President Barack Obama and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi have coffee and tea in the gardens of the Hyderabad House in, New Delhi, India, Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015. Seizing on their personal bond, President Barack Obama and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi voiced optimism Sunday that they could find common ground on defense, commerce and environmental issues. (AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

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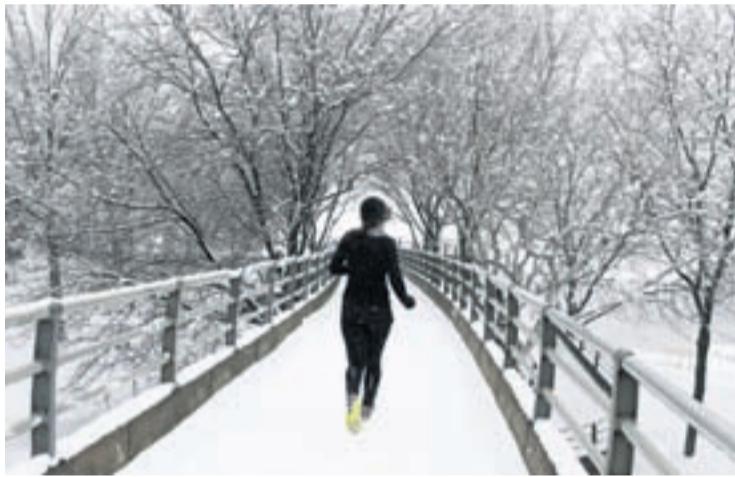
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'Potentially historic' storm headed for US Northeast



A jogger crosses a footbridge to the Esplanade in Boston, Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015. A winter that has largely spared the U.S. Northeast thus far is about to arrive with gusto: a storm the National Weather Service called "potentially historic" could dump 2 feet or more of snow between New York and Boston.

(AP Photo/Michael Dwyer)

VERENA DOBNIK
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A storm the National Weather Service called "potentially historic" was headed toward the U.S. Northeast, where forecasters predicted it could dump 2 to 3 feet (60 to 90 centimeters) of snow from northern New Jersey to Connecticut.

A blizzard warning was issued for New York and Boston, and the National Weather Service said the massive storm would bring heavy snow and powerful winds starting Monday and into Tuesday.

"This could be a storm the likes of which we have never seen before," New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said at a news conference Sunday.

De Blasio held up a piece of paper showing the city's top 10 snowstorms and said this one could land at the top of a list that goes back to 1872. "Don't underestimate this storm. Prepare

for the worst," he said as he urged residents to plan to leave work early Monday. Boston is expected to get 18 to 24 inches (45 to 60 centimeters) of snow, and Philadelphia could see 14 to 18 inches (35 to 45 centimeters), the weather service said Sunday.

A weekend storm that had brought snow and slush to the Northeast — the first real snow of the season for many areas — was just a warm up.

The storm system driving out of the Midwest brought snow to Ohio on Sunday and was expected to ultimately spread from Washington, D.C., to Maine.

Lesser totals were forecast for the Washington area — a coating or a bit more — with steadily increasing amounts expected as the storm plods its way north. The storm promised treacherous travel by both land and air throughout the busy northeast corridor.

Preparations large and

small were in effect elsewhere in New York. A Manhattan Home Depot store sold about twice as many shovels over the weekend as it normally does while transit officials hop-

ing to keep the subways running smoothly planned to use modified subway cars loaded with de-icing fluid to spray the third rail that powers trains.

Farther north, a blizzard

warning was issued for Boston from Monday night through early Wednesday. Wind gusts of 60 mph (96 kph) or more are possible on Cape Cod, forecasters said. □

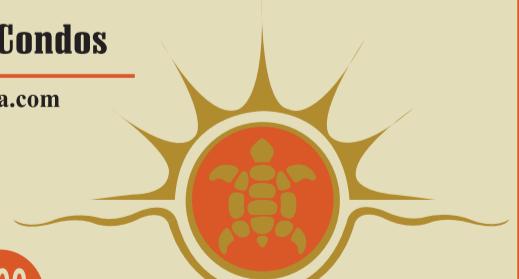
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Obama, Modi Declare New Era in US-India Relations

JULIE PACE

Associated Press

NEW DELHI/WASHINGTON

(AP) — President Barack Obama and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday declared an era of "new trust" in the often fraught relationship between their nations as the U.S. leader opened a three-day visit to New Delhi.

Standing side by side at the stately Hyderabad House, Obama and Modi cited progress toward putting in place a landmark civil nuclear agreement, as well as advances on climate change and defense ties. But from the start, the day was more about putting their personal bond on display. Modi broke with protocol and wrapped

Obama in an enthusiastic hug after Obama got off Air Force One.

Obama later told reporters that Modi's "strong personal commitment to the U.S.-India relationship gives us an opportunity to further energize these efforts."

Modi was as effusive. He called Obama by his first name and said "the chemistry that has brought Barack and me closer has also brought Washington and Delhi closer."

Obama was to be the chief guest Monday at the annual Republic Day festivities, which mark the anniversary of India's democratic constitution coming into force. Obama is the first U.S. leader to attend the celebrations that are part Soviet-style display of India's mili-



U.S. President Barack Obama and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi wave to the media before a meeting in New Delhi, India, Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015. Obama was welcomed like royalty Sunday in India as he opened a three-day visit aimed at turning his burgeoning rapport with Prime Minister Narendra Modi into progress on climate change, defense and economic issues.

(AP Photo/Manish Swarup)

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tary hardware, part Macy's Thanksgiving Day-type parade with floats highlighting India's cultural diversity.

Obama's presence would have been unlikely only a few years ago.

Relations between the U.S. and India hit a low in 2013 after an Indian diplomat was arrested and strip-searched in New York over allegations that she lied on visa forms to bring her maid to the U.S. while paying the woman a pittance. The official's treatment caused outrage in New Delhi, and India retaliated against U.S. diplomats. The U.S. and India also were at an impasse over implementing the civil nuclear agreement signed in 2008. The U.S. insisted on tracking fissile material it supplied to India. Also, Washington was frustrated by Indian legal liability provisions that have discouraged U.S. companies from capitalizing on new energy development in India. There were about companies' legal responsibilities in the event of a nuclear power plant accident.

On Sunday, Obama said he and Modi had reached a "breakthrough understanding" on those areas of disagreements. Details on an accord were sparse. Ben Rhodes, Obama's deputy national security adviser, said only that India "moved sufficiently on these issues to give us assurances that the issues are resolved." U.S. Ambassador Richard Verma said the agreement would not require new legislation.

The U.S. and India also agreed to extend a 10-year defense partnership deal and cooperate on the phasedown of hydrofluorocarbons, the greenhouse gases used for refrigeration and air conditioning.

Still, that was hardly the kind of sweeping climate change agreement the U.S. ultimately has in mind with India. The White House is hoping that the surprise deal with China late last year setting ambitious targets for cutting greenhouse gas emissions will influence India and others. Modi, however, rejected comparisons with China. "India is an independent country, and there is no pressure on us from any country or any person," he said.

Obama arrived Sunday morning to a capital whose normally bustling streets were empty. Police cleared sidewalks as Obama's motorcade sped to the presidential palace for a welcome ceremony. Obama then visited a memorial to the father of India's independence movement, Mahatma Gandhi. □

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Police say Queens father killed 3 and then himself

BENJAMIN MUELLER

JOHN SURICO

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NEW YORK - In the predawn darkness, Christina Walker, 12, lifted herself off her blood-soaked bedroom floor and went to the phone. Three generations of her family - her 7-year-old sister, her mother and her grandmother - lay nearby, fatally shot in the head by her father, the authorities said.

Christina had been shot in the head, too. Her speech was muddled, her words a bit difficult to make out, according to Robert K. Boyce, the chief of detectives for the New York Police Department. But the girl, who likes to wear turquoise eyeliner and tiaras, pressed on, dialing 911 and even trudging downstairs to pull the door open for police officers. In a storm of violence in Queens early Saturday, Jonathon Walker

killed his younger daughter, Kayla, along with the girls' mother, Shantai Hale, 31, and Hale's mother, Viola Warren, 62, the authorities said. Walker, 34, then drove to a desolate area 6 miles away, where he fatally shot himself.

Christina, the only survivor, was taken to Long Island Jewish Medical Center, where she was in critical but stable condition, the police said.

The shooting started shortly after Walker returned home at 5:38 a.m. He moved between the upstairs bedrooms and shot each of the four victims with a .45-caliber gun, the police said.

A nightclub bouncer and security guard, Walker then drove his silver GMC Acadia from the two-family home in the Brookville neighborhood near Kennedy Airport, where all five lived, to a remote area

on Lefferts Boulevard, just south of the Belt Parkway, the police said. Sitting in the car and using the same

him: "What I did, I cannot come back from."

The killings turned a quiet dead-end block into a



New York Police Department officers at the scene of a fatal shooting in New York, Jan. 24, 2015. The suspect, identified by the police as Jonathon Walker, shot his two daughters, their mother and their grandmother in the head at their Queens home early Saturday morning and then fled in a sport utility vehicle, the authorities said.

(Uli Seit/The New York Times)

gun, he shot himself in the head, the police said.

Boyce said at a briefing that Walker had called his brother in Las Vegas after shooting his family and told

scene of despair on a gray Saturday morning, as relatives stepped through a layer of slush and ducked under caution tape. They sobbed into the arms of

Wendell Warren, 53, whose oldest sister was Viola Warren.

"We will be baffled for years to come," he said softly.

Joseph Simmons, 34, said Hale, his cousin, had recently grown despondent about her relationship with Walker, a former professional basketball player in Europe who stood 6 1/2 feet tall. Hale had dropped out of high school after getting pregnant with Christina, he said, and lived for years with Walker without marrying. But recently she realized the relationship was crumbling, posting spiritual sentiments on social media, Simmons said.

"He's just not what he appeared to be," Simmons said of Walker.

Glen Roy Hibbert, 49, who lives two houses from the Walker family, said he did not understand the violence. □



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Republican primary process unofficially kicks off in Iowa

ASHLEY PARKER

TRIP GABRIEL

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DES MOINES, Iowa - A crowded field of potential Republican presidential candidates scrapped for the hearts of the party's conservative base here Saturday, implicitly rejecting more moderate choices like Jeb Bush and Mitt Romney, who did not attend. The daylong forum, billed as an informal kickoff to the 2016 nominating contest, sharply etched a divide between the party's activist, passionate base - which had nearly 1,000 people in attendance - and its center-right wing.

Several potential candidates aimed criticism at Bush and Romney - mostly in veiled swipes, rather than by name - over the Common Core educational standards and immigration reform, which Bush in particular supports.

With the exception of Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey, who is still seeking traction in Iowa and was scheduled to speak in the evening, the more centrist wing of the party was largely unrepresented in the audience and on stage. Bush, the former governor of Florida, and Romney, the party's 2012 nominee, declined invitations. Two other well-known absences were Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida, who huddled with donors Saturday in Miami, and Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky.

Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas, a Tea Party hero, challenged activists to demand that Republicans prove their conservative bona fides. "In a

Republican primary, every candidate is going to say, 'I'm the most conservative guy who ever lived,'" he said. "You know what? Talk is cheap."

Rising to his own challenge, Cruz called for "the locusts"

er tossing juicy rhetorical tidbits to an appreciative crowd, the gathering emphasized the challenges that the party's less conservative candidates can expect to face in states with early caucuses and prima-

called Obama's refusal to take a helicopter ride with him to the Rio Grande Valley last year to see thousands of unaccompanied minors crossing the border, for which Perry blamed White House policies.

immigration policy that puts Americans first and American workers first," he said. Gov. Scott Walker of Wisconsin, who has given fewer signs than others that he might run, strolled the stage in rolled-up shirt-sleeves and, in an energetic speech, flattered Iowa's activists like a practiced caucus contender. He acknowledged a "woman in Waterloo" who had donated three times to his campaign and thanked Iowans for their prayers during "the dark days" when he and his family received threats because of his showdown with public employees' unions.

Walker offered a preview of a national campaign built on his record of defying teachers' unions, as well as tens of thousands of protesters. "The Occupy movement started in Madison, Wisconsin, four years ago and then went to Wall Street," he said. "So my apologies for that."

In an interview earlier in

the week, Sen. Jeff Flake,

R-Ariz., called the attention

lavished on Iowa because

it hosts the first presidential

caucus "an unfortunate

part of our electoral calendar."

Flake did not attend the forum.

"Too many Republicans have for too many years, for too many cycles, tried to appeal to a small group that does not help us in general elections," Flake said. "If you can go to Iowa and not take Steve King's position, more power to you, but if you're tempted to appeal to a small demographic, then it doesn't help us in the general." □



U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, speaks during the Freedom Summit, Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015, in Des Moines, Iowa. (AP Photo/Charlie Neiburgall)

of the Environmental Protection Agency to be sent back to Washington, and for padlocking the Internal Revenue Service and then redeploying its agents to secure the Southern border. "If you said you opposed the president's unconstitutional executive amnesty, show me where you stood up and fought," Cruz said, referring to President Barack Obama's executive actions on immigration. Cruz paced the stage, pointing his finger, pounding his fists, sometimes clapping for himself. "If you said you oppose Common Core," he said, "show me where you stood up and fought."

With speaker after speak-

ries, like Iowa and South Carolina.

Bush, who spoke Friday in San Francisco, seemed to criticize the co-host of the forum, Rep. Steve King of Iowa, who is his party's most prominent opponent of an immigration overhaul. "We need to find a path to legalized status for those who have come here and have languished in the shadows," Bush said.

Former Gov. Rick Perry of Texas, whose 2012 campaign foundered in Iowa partly because opponents portrayed him as soft on illegal immigration, struck a more militant stance Saturday. He referred to "brother Steve King." And he re-

"For the sake of the nation, we did not stand idle against this threat," Perry said. "So here is what I say: If Washington refuses to secure the border, Texas will." Rick Santorum, the winner of the 2012 Iowa caucus and 10 other nominating contests, called for an immigration overhaul that would not just secure the Southern border, but also reduce the level of legal immigration.

Santorum said unskilled immigrants who are authorized to work in the United States take jobs from American-born workers, and he praised laws of the 1920s that ended the great wave of European immigration. "We need to stand for an

Police shortage a security risk for Mardi Gras

CAIN BURDEAU

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) —

Throughout the quieter parts of the French Quarter, residents and businesses have posted signs that read "Caution: Walk in Large Groups. We (heart) N.O.P.D. We Just Need More."

It's an unsettling message about violent crime in the Big Easy for the 1 million revelers about to descend for Carnival season, which this year ends on Feb. 17, Fat Tuesday.

The signs are an embarrassment for a city that likes to say how safe it makes Mardi Gras year in and year out, despite the debauchery. During Carnival, the streets crawl not only with partiers but with cops, state troopers, federal agents and private security officers.

Despite their presence, shootings have occurred in nightclubs, on Bourbon Street, or along Carnival parade routes — many of which end at or near the Quarter — in at least eight of the past 11 years. At least 27 people were injured and one killed in those attacks.

Since November, a series of more than 60 robberies in and around the Quarter has shocked residents and sparked outrage directed not so much at the New Orleans Police Department but at Mayor Mitch Landrieu, who is pushing back against complaints that he paints a too-flattering picture of his crime-fighting efforts.

Fears have been stoked by images of the attacks caught by a growing network of private surveillance cameras. The attackers have used knives, guns, fists, sharp objects, pepper spray and even purses on pedestrians.

"These are crimes of opportunity, these people are lying in wait," said Harry Widmann, a lawyer whose California colleague was beaten unconscious in December after he was attacked on his way back to his hotel. "You need to have a police presence."



Revelers pack the French Quarter during Mardi Gras, as seen from the balcony of the Royal Sonesta Hotel in New Orleans. A spike in violent crime in the French Quarter is unsettling residents and comes just as New Orleans prepares to host crowds of tourists for Mardi Gras.

(AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

NOPD Superintendent Michael Harrison said the number of robberies is up somewhat from last year and that the attacks "are becoming more brazen."

Applying pressure on Landrieu has been Sidney Torres IV, a wealthy 39-year-old French Quarter entrepreneur, who paid for a series of TV ads blaming the mayor. He said he couldn't sit idle after his mansion on an oak-lined avenue along one edge of the Quarter was burglarized in December, and then Buffa's Bar & Restaurant next door to his home was robbed by two armed men.

"Enough is enough," Torres said.

Landrieu has sent more officers into the Quarter, and police say they're cracking down.

Harrison said he welcomed the new signs advising visitors to walk in large groups. "That's good advice wherever you go in the world, and so, we're not offended by that," the superintendent said.

The French Quarter's narrow, 300-year-old streets contribute to its charm, but also make it a haven for muggings, especially between October and March, the height of the tourism and convention season. A Loyola University study of robberies in tourist areas during those months in 2007 and 2008 found

visitors were the targets in 34 out of 155 robberies. The study put some of the

blame on outsiders themselves, many of whom apparently were inebriated and lured to unsafe places in search of drugs and sex.

"As we move into the Carnival season, you are going to see a robust force on the streets," Landrieu said. "I've authorized as much overtime as is necessary." The trouble with this pledge is that the NOPD is understaffed.

The force has lost about 500 officers since Hurricane Katrina struck in 2005 and it is now down to about 1,150 — far fewer than the 1,600 that Landrieu would like. Some officers have been forced to leave, many have simply retired and others are seeking better paying jobs. Low morale, hiring freezes and a lack of large pay increases. □

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Japan stunned by video claiming death of 1 of 2 IS hostages

YURI KAGEYAMA

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — From the prime minister to ordinary people, Japanese were shocked Sunday at a video purportedly showing one of two Japanese hostages of the extremist Islamic State group had been killed. With attention focused on efforts to save the other hostage, some also criticized Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's drive for a more assertive Japan as responsible for the hostage crisis. A somber Abe appeared on public broadcaster NHK early Sunday demanding the militants release 47-year-old journalist Kenji Goto unharmed. He said the video was likely authentic, although he add-

ed that the government was still reviewing it. He offered condolences to the family and friends of Haruna Yukawa, a 42-year-old adventurer taken hostage in Syria last year.

Abe declined to comment on the message in the video, which demanded a prisoner exchange for Goto. He said only that the government was still working on the situation and reiterated that Japan condemns terrorism.

"I am left speechless," he said. "We strongly and totally criticize such acts."

Yukawa's father, Shoichi, told reporters he hoped "deep in his heart" that the news of his son's killing was not true.

"If I am ever reunited with



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe speaks to the media after he signed a book of condolence for the late King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia at Saudi Arabian Embassy in Tokyo Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015. Abe said earlier in the day he was "speechless" after an online video purportedly showed that one of two Japanese hostages of the extremist Islamic State group had been killed, and he demanded the release of the other.

(AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)

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him, I just want to give him a big hug," he said.

President Barack Obama condemned what he called "the brutal murder" of Yukawa and offered condolences to Abe. Obama's statement didn't say how the U.S. knew Yukawa was dead.

"The U.S. intelligence community has no reason to doubt the authenticity of the video," said Brian Hale, spokesman for the U.S. director of national intelligence.

French President Francois Hollande also said condemned the killing and praised Japan's "determined engagement in the fight against international terrorism."

The United Nations Security Council issued a statement that "deplored the apparent murder" of Yukawa, declaring that the Islamic State group "must be defeated and that the intolerance, violence and

hatred it espouses must be stamped out."

The Associated Press could not verify the contents of the video message, which was removed from websites soon after it appeared and varied greatly from previous videos released by the Islamic State group, which now holds a third of both Syria and Iraq.

Criticism of Abe has touched on his push for an expanded role for Japan's troops — one that has remained strictly confined to self-defense under the pacifist constitution written after the nation's defeat in World War II.

About 100 protesters, some of them holding placards that read, "I'm Kenji" and "Free Goto," demonstrated late Sunday in front of the prime minister's residence, demanding Abe save Goto.

Demonstrator Kenji Kunimoto, 66, blamed Abe as bringing the hostage crisis

on himself.

"This happened when Prime Minister Abe was visiting Israel," he said. "I think there's a side to this, where they may have taken it as a form of provocation, possibly a big one."

While in the Middle East, Abe announced \$200 million in humanitarian aid to the nations fighting the militants. The Islamic State group addressed Abe and demanded the same amount of money as ransom for the two hostages.

Jun Hori, an independent journalist, bemoaned Abe's directly mentioning the Islamic State in announcing the aid.

Reflecting widely held sentiments here, Hori believes Japan, restricted by its constitution, has held a slightly different position from the U.S. and Europe on the Middle East, and had up to now fared better at avoiding Western-style terrorist attacks.

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Talks in Yemen between political parties, rebels break down

AHMED AL-HAJ

Associated Press

SANA, Yemen (AP) — U.N.-sponsored talks between Yemeni political parties and Shiite rebels who occupy the capital broke down Sunday, with several main factions calling for renewed protests against the rebels.

The failure extended a power vacuum in the leaderless country, home to what Washington considers al-Qaida's most dangerous offshoot, after the president resigned last week while rebels surrounded his house and demanded concessions.

An official with the leadership of a party present at Sunday's meeting says the Islamist Islah party pulled out of the talks along with the Socialist and Nasserite parties. The official says the group rejects dialogue with the rebels, known as Houthis, and calls for peaceful protests against them.

The parties demand the release of a group of 11

activists and journalists the Houthis detained earlier in the day during protests against them in Sanaa.

The Houthis, who control the streets of the capital in the absence of significant central government forces,

had scuffled with the demonstrators, firing automatic rifles into the air to disperse the crowd and breaking journalists' cameras.

At another anti-rebel protest Sunday in the capital, some 200 demonstra-

tors gathered in Change Square and marched toward the presidential palace. The square was the birthplace of Yemen's 2011 uprising against long-time autocrat Ali Abdullah Saleh.

By nightfall, the streets were clear and the city silent. Just a day earlier, tens of thousands of people marched across the country to denounce the rebels, mainly adherents of a Shiite sect who swept down from their northern strongholds last summer.

They control several cities and say they are fighting corruption and want a greater share of power, including more influence over the writing of a new constitution.

Earlier, state news agency SABA reported that parliament had postponed a meeting which had been scheduled for Sunday to decide on whether to accept the resignation of Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, who quit as president Thursday along with his Cabinet.

Hadi remains at his private residence, surrounded by Houthi forces who run checkpoints across the capital and patrol the streets in pickups mounted with machine guns.



Protesters hold posters against Houthi Shiite rebels who hold the capital, Sanaa, amid a power vacuum as they hold a demonstration in Sanaa. Some 20,000 marched across the capital, where demonstrators converged on the house of President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, who resigned Thursday along with his Cabinet. Arabic writing on the banner at right reads, "Militias do not build a country."

(AP Photo/Hani Mohammed)

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Greece's anti-bailout Syriza party wins election

ELENA NICHOLAS BECATOROS PAPHITIS

DEMETRIS NELLAS
Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — The anti-bailout Syriza party won a clear victory in austerity-weary Greece's national election on Sunday, according to projections by state-run TV's exit poll.

But it was uncertain whether the radical left-wing par-

ty, led by 40-year-old Alexis Tsipras, had won by a big enough margin over Prime Minister Antonis Samaras' incumbent conservatives to govern alone. For that, they need a minimum 151 of parliament's 300 seats. The Interior Ministry said that its projections, based on early returns, show Syriza gaining 150 seats. But it added that the margin of error meant that the final

number could be 149 to 151, and a final result could not emerge until all votes have been counted.

If the communist-rooted party fails to win at least 151 seats, it will have to find a coalition partner, or secure pledges of support that would allow it to form a minority government. Official results from 17.6 percent of polling stations counted showed Syriza

with 35 percent and Samaras' New Democracy with 29.3 percent. An exit poll on state-run Nerit TV projected Syriza as winning with between 36 and 38 percent, compared to ND with 26-28 percent.

Earlier projections had given Syriza 146-158 seats in parliament, and New Democracy 65-75 seats.

Tsipras has promised to re-negotiate the country's 240

billion-euro (\$270 billion) international bailout deal, and seek forgiveness for most of Greece's massive debt load. He has pledged to reverse many of the reforms that creditors demanded — including cuts in pensions and the minimum wage, some privatizations and public sector firings — in exchange for keeping Greece financially afloat since 2010. □

Egypt: 15 killed in clashes between Islamists, police

HAMZA HENDAWI
SARAH EL DEEB

Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Anti-government protesters fought street battles with police in Cairo and other cities on Sunday, the fourth anniversary of the country's 2011 uprising, as clashes left at least 15 people dead and dozens injured. Another two people died when an explosive device they were planting under a high-voltage tower in the Nile Delta exploded prematurely, according to security officials. Most of the deaths took place in Cairo's eastern Matariyah district — an Islamist stronghold where police used tear gas and birdshots to disperse supporters of the outlawed



An Egyptian holds his chest as he is arrested by plainclothes police in downtown Cairo, Egypt, Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015. Egypt tightened security in Cairo and other cities Sunday as police moved to break up scattered protests marking the anniversary of the 2011 uprising that toppled autocrat Hosni Mubarak. (AP Photo/Hassan Mohamed)

Muslim Brotherhood group armed with firebombs and rocks. At least nine protest-

ers and one police conscript were killed in the clashes there, the officials

said. Two other protesters and two policemen were killed

elsewhere in Cairo on Sunday, and one in the Mediterranean port city of Alexandria, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

The violence underscored the continued turmoil roiling the Arab world's most populous nation four years after the 18-day uprising that toppled autocrat Hosni Mubarak. Although small and scattered, Sunday's violence is likely to impact on Egypt's image as it prepares to host an international donors' conference in March and in which President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi's government has high hopes for the ailing economy. □

Boko Haram launches new attack on Nigerian city

ADAM NOSSITER
MICHAEL R. GORDON

© 2015 New York Times

MAIDUGURI, Nigeria — Maiduguri, the major city in Nigeria's northeast, came under sustained attack from Boko Haram terrorists Sunday morning, with officials here calling it the group's most audacious assault on the city to date. This city of more than 2 million people was attacked beginning late Saturday

night from at least two directions by the militants from the Islamist insurgency, which effectively controls the territory surrounding the city. Loud explosions were heard in the center of the city, and small-arms fire and artillery in its suburbs.

"Certainly this is the most serious attack yet," said Kashim Shettima, the governor of Borno state, of which Maiduguri is the capital. "We faced a really exist-

tential threat."

By late Sunday morning, the attack appeared to have been repulsed by the Nigerian military. Officials said that bombs dropped on insurgent positions had turned the tide of the battle here, but there were reports that a major military installation in a town to the north, Monguno, had fallen to the insurgents, with more than 1,000 soldiers fleeing to the bush in the face of

the attack. The attack on Maiduguri coincided with a visit by Secretary of State John Kerry to Nigeria's commercial capital, Lagos, for meetings with President Goodluck Jonathan and his challenger in the coming presidential election, Muhammadu Buhari, a retired general. Kerry was expected to focus in part on the Boko Haram threat amid mounting friction between the

United States and Nigeria over how best to deal with it. Initial reports suggested that civilian and military casualties here were substantial. Witnesses reported seeing hundreds of residents fleeing the suburbs and rushing toward the city's center. They also reported seeing some Nigerian troops moving away from the fighting, as in numerous previous engagements with the Islamists. □



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Ukraine: Phone calls prove rebels attacked city, killed 30

YURAS KARMAU

Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine's president said Sunday that intercepted radio and telephone conversations prove that Russia-backed separatists were responsible for firing the rockets that pounded the southeastern city of Mariupol and killed at least 30 people.

The attack on Mariupol, a strategically situated port city that had been relatively quiet for months, alarmed the West and looked likely further to aggravate relations with Russia.

Putting the blame squarely on Moscow, President Barack Obama said the U.S. would work with its European partners to "ratchet up the pressure on Russia."

European Union foreign affairs chief Federica Mogherini later announced that EU foreign ministers would hold an "extraordinary" meeting in Brus-

sels on Thursday to discuss Ukraine.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, speaking separately with Mogherini and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, told them the Ukrainian government bore responsibility for the latest military escalation, according to statements released by his ministry. Lavrov did not, however, directly address who had carried out the attack on Mariupol and said that it should be investigated.

Separatist leader Alexander Zakharchenko initially announced that his forces had begun an offensive on the government-controlled city of Mariupol. But after the extent of civilian casualties became known, he backtracked and blamed Ukrainian forces for Saturday's carnage.

The rocket attack came a day after the rebels rejected a peace deal and announced they were going on a multi-pronged offensive against the Kiev



People examine their burned cars, parked outside an apartment building in Vostochniy district of Mariupol, Eastern Ukraine, Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015. Indiscriminate rocket fire slammed into a market, schools, homes and shops Saturday in Ukraine's southeastern city of Mariupol, killing at least 30 people, authorities said.

government in Kiev in a bid to seize more territory. The rebel stance has upended

European attempts to mediate an end to the fighting in eastern Ukraine that

has cost at least 5,100 lives since April, according to United Nations estimates. □

Rally by German anti-Islam group PEGIDA draws smaller crowds

DRESDEN, Germany (AP) — A group protesting against the perceived "Islamization of the West" mustered fewer supporters than previously, with police in the eastern city of Dresden estimating that about 17,300 people took part in the demonstration Sunday.

It was the group's first march since co-founder Lutz Bachmann resigned Wednesday, after German media published Facebook messages in which he called refugees "dirty" and posed as Adolf Hitler. The group, which calls itself Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamization of the West, or PEGIDA, says it isn't racist and has condemned Bachmann's com-

ments about refugees. PEGIDA's previous protest, two weeks ago, drew a record crowd of 25,000. A demonstration planned last week was canceled after authorities discovered an online threat naming the group as a possible target for a terror attack.

Police said some 5,000 people took part in a counter-protest Sunday, leading to several minor skirmishes between rival supporters.

On Saturday night, about 1,000 people from a different group calling itself Patriotic Europeans Against the Americanization of the West, or PEGADA, clashed with 600 counter-protesters in the nearby city of Erfurt. □



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US works to ease Caribbean dependence on Venezuelan oil

BEN FOX

Associated Press

CARACAS/MIAMI (AP) — A decade-long addiction to oil subsidized by Venezuela may be coming to an end for several Caribbean nations, with a nudge from the United States.

Fears that falling oil prices could knock the wheels off the already wobbly economy of oil-dependent Venezuela have sparked apparent interest in alternatives to Petrocaribe, a trade pro-

gram created by the late President Hugo Chavez that has kept the region dependent on the South American country for energy.

All the countries of the region, except Cuba, are expected to participate in closed talks that will involve Biden and other U.S. officials as well as representatives of the European Union, the U.N., and multilateral financ-

said an official with the vice president's office involved in the event.

The word "Venezuela" may not even get mentioned, but it will be on everyone's minds. "These folks are in a situation where Petrocaribe is not as sweet of a deal as it used to be," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the private, multilateral talks in Washington.

At the moment, there is no sign that Venezuela will

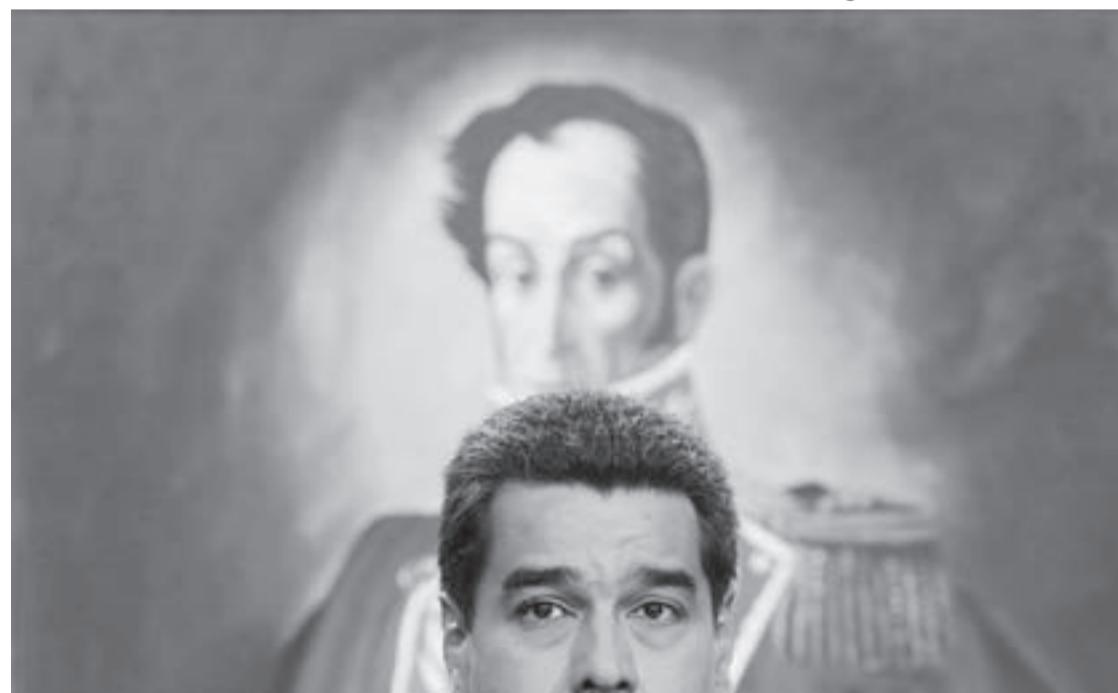
the region, provides oil and refined products such as diesel at market prices, but it requires member countries to pay only a small portion of the cost up front and allows them to finance the rest under generous long-term debt agreements, as well as to barter for agricultural products or services.

That has given Petrocaribe members more cash to fund their perennially strapped governments. Haiti alone said in a recent report it has financed dozens of public works projects over the past five years that would have been impossible without Petrocaribe.

But there have been downsides. It has discouraged the Caribbean from trying to become more self-sufficient and shift to natural gas, which produces fewer greenhouse gases and would make their economies more competitive by bringing down energy costs. "It's a little bit like addiction. It's hard for them to break it," said Goldwyn, who is a co-author of a report on Petrocaribe by the Atlantic Council's Adrienne Arsht Latin America Center, one of the organizers of a public portion of Monday's summit.

Petrocaribe also has increased indebtedness, adding \$3 billion alone to the obligation owed by Jamaica, where the public debt stands at 130 percent of GDP. And, if the program were to fall apart, it would leave its 17 members struggling for alternatives.

"I just don't think it's going to be around much longer, or at least not in its full form," said Peter Schechter, director of the Atlantic Council's Latin America Center. "We don't want our closest neighbors in the Caribbean to suddenly be surprised by a situation in which Venezuela is suddenly unable to provide oil." □



Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro, backdropped by a painting of independence hero Simon Bolivar, speaks during a press conference at Miraflores Presidential Palace in Caracas, Venezuela.

gram created by the late President Hugo Chavez that has kept the region dependent on the South American country for energy.

Evidence of that interest will be on display Monday as Caribbean leaders converge in Washington for the first Caribbean Energy Security Summit, hosted by Vice President Joe Biden. Plans for the event have been in the works for months, but with oil recently falling to below \$50 a barrel, a sense of urgency has emerged given Venezuela's increasingly precarious situation.

"It's absolutely the case that the economic situation has deteriorated for Ven-

ing agencies such as the World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank.

The focus will be on exploring ways to help Caribbean countries convert diesel-powered energy plants to natural gas and increase use of other alternative energy sources. Such moves would reduce the nearly complete dependence on oil that has made energy expensive in the region and created the opening for Venezuela in the first place.

In practical terms, the summit is intended to offer technical assistance, help obtaining financing and advice on regulatory changes that can attract investment,

end Petrocaribe. Earlier this month, President Nicolas Maduro praised it as a "guarantee of peace, stability, mutual benefit, shared development and fair commerce shared by the entire Caribbean."

Still, a prolonged collapse of oil prices could sink an economy already in a deep recession or Caracas could be forced to commit its exports to China to meet its debt obligations.

Caribbean governments began signing on to Petrocaribe in 2005 as a spike in oil prices sent energy and car-fuel costs soaring. Venezuela, which created the program as part of an effort to counter U.S. influence in

In The Caribbean

EU halting \$37M in aid for Guyana on political chaos

GEOGETOWN, Guyana (AP)

— The European Union is withholding \$37 million in aid slated for Guyana because the government of the South American country is operating without a Parliament. EU officials said they will withhold the money meant to help boost the country's sugar industry and finance infrastructure works until their concerns are addressed. The EU noted in a statement late Friday that one of the functions of Guyana's National Assembly is to oversee the budget. President Donald Ramotar temporarily suspended the opposition-controlled legislature in November to avoid a no-confidence vote. He has called for elections in May but has not yet formally dissolved Parliament. □

UN urges Haiti to hold transparent and fair elections

POR-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)

— U.N. officials are encouraging Haiti to hold transparent and inclusive elections as they praise the government for trying to stabilize the country's political situation. The U.N. Stabilization Mission in Haiti said in a statement issued Saturday that officials supported the appointment of new Prime Minister Evans Paul as well as the swearing in of a new provisional electoral council. Members of the U.N. Security Council are on a three-day visit aimed in part at urging the government to hold long-delayed municipal and legislative elections. U.S. Ambassador Samantha Power said this weekend that she was encouraged the government was focusing on health and the economy despite a political stalemate that led President Michel Martelly to start ruling by decree last week after Parliament was dissolved. □

LOCAL Aruba TODAY

All New Every Monday:

Dinner and a Show at the Blue Lobster Restaurant!

PALM BEACH – All new every Monday, the Blue Lobster Restaurant says "Welcome to Aruba" with their new "Dinner and a Show." When you arrive in Aruba, would you like to taste Aruban food and enjoy Aruban Folkloric and Carnival music amid the backdrop of Carnival costumes, music and great prizes? The Blue Lobster Restaurant has created a new recipe of entertainment and food in Aruba called "Welcome to Aruba" an immediate classic 'dinner and show' concept that you do not want to miss, filled with fun, music and prizes.

Now even more delicious and succulent plates are available to please the exquisite palate of the sophisticated patrons choosing The Blue Lobster Restaurant for their special dinners. So in addition to the 25 lobster dishes being offered, now is combined with a dinner and a show every Monday at 7:00pm

So for family fun and the enjoyment of dining together with your friends



with a wide selection of cuisine, you must consider the "Welcome to Aruba, Dinner and a Show" at the Blue Lobster Restaurant.

Make your reservation now at arubatcn.com or call 586-3843 now.

The Blue Lobster Restaurant offers a superior menu including:

--The Lobster & Seafood Section, offering over 30 main dishes all with fresh lobster and fish brought in by local fishermen from around the Caribbean islands.

--The Meat Section, offering a classic list of choices, enough to please any guest offering high quality,

top-of-the-line meat like Black Angus and US Prime.

--The Italian Section, offering wonderful Italian Pastas made to perfection with real Italian Recipes, with dishes like Orlpetto di Carni, Minestrone di la Nona, Nova Scotia Salmon Carpaccio, Sicilian Zuppa di Mare, and many more.

--The Creole Section, which fulfills the dreams of many tourists, allowing them to sample the local food with its ethnic flavors and simple rustic presentation. The Blue Lobster will take you on a fantastic journey through our local flavors, serving local dishes like, Keshi Jena, Keri

Keri, Balchi Pisca, Cabrito Stoba, and many more, served with typical, very local accompaniments including Funchi Hasa (Fried polenta), Bana Hasa (Fried sweet plantain), and Pan Bati (local style over-the-flame baked Aruban-style pancake).

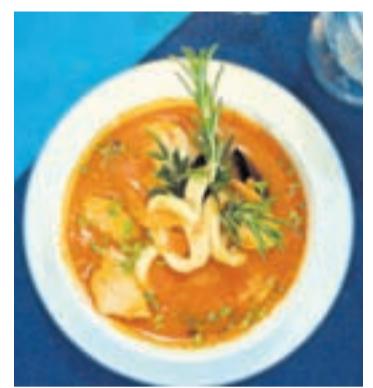
The Blue Lobster Restaurant also offers a Kids Menu, Vegetarian Dishes and much more. Mr. Castaño says that The Blue Lobster Restaurant shall be the "One-Stop Restaurant for families on Aruba!"

So, go for lobster but find also Italian, great meats,



and Creole all under the same roof!

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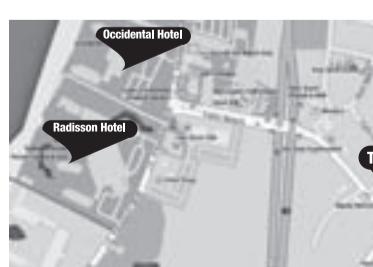
- Pumpkin Soup
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MAIN DISH

- Fish Balls and Keri-Keri in creole souse
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- Lobster Thermidor a la cucui.
(served with funchi, fried plantains and yellow rice)

DESSERT

- Quesillo
- Ice Cream
- Mango Sherbet



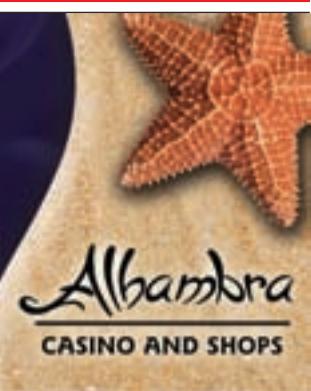
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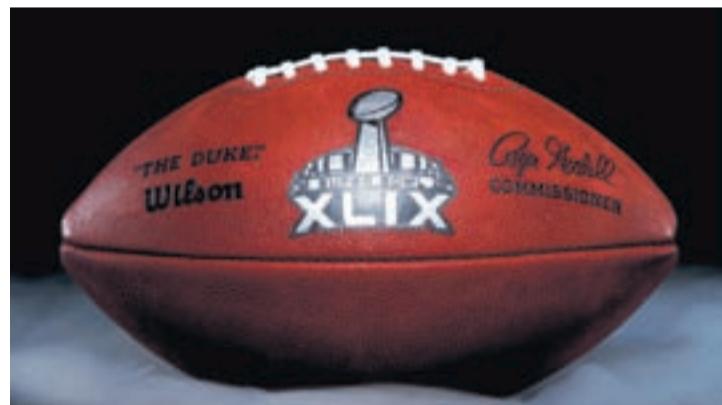
Where will you watch the game?

Lots of Options for Great Super Bowl Parties at Arawak Gardens!

PALM BEACH - For many Americans it is a definite highlight of the year: the Super Bowl with its new, outrageous ads and spectacular musical shows surrounding a sizzling match between two football giants,

the AFC Champion New England Patriots and the NFC Champion and current super Bowl Champion Seattle Seahawks. This year the buzz is also over Katy Perry and Lenny Kravitz, who will steal part of the show during halftime, following in the footsteps of stars like Michael Jackson, the Rolling Stones and Beyoncé.

The Super Bowl will take place on Sunday, February 1st and even on Aruba you can watch the game like you would at home. We hereby showcase four options, all at the Arawak Garden across from the



Occidental Resort on the hi-rise strip; each restaurant/bar has large screens and specials to make the Super Bowl extra special. There is a big screen and bucket specials as well as free snacks at Sopranos piano bar as well.

At Salt & Pepper Restaurant (586-3280) there are chicken wings and curly fries for just \$ 13--, while Tango Argentine Grill (586-8600)

next door offers an All you can eat BBQ ribs with cole slaw and fries for \$ 23.95. At Fishes & More (586-3659) Super Bowl fans can enjoy deep-fried shrimps with tartar sauce and fries for \$ 19.95; Casa Tua (586-8470) keeps you in the right mood whatever the outcome with a Chicken BBQ or pizza (\$ 15.50). So, may the best team win! □

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La Cabana Supports the Community! **Stichting Casa Cuna Progreso Receives a Generous Donation**

EAGLE BEACH - La Cabana Beach Resort & Casino board members and the resort's executive committee hosted a much-enjoyed event in which Faye Doctrow, accompanied by her son Rick, handed over a donation check to Stichting Casa Cuna Progreso in the name of her late husband, Martin (Marty) Doctrow, past President of the Board of La Cabana's Cooperative Association for many years. Prior to handing the check over, Faye shared that Marty loved Aruba. He also loved La Cabana and mostly he loved children, and Marty, she stated would have really been touched by this donation. Faye also expressed the hope that the gesture would help the children living at Casa Cuna, Children's home.



Carlos Albertus, Vice President of Casa Cuna's Board conveyed the appreciation of the home, and confirmed that it is indeed in need of additional funds, and can really put the do-

nation to good use. Quilin Arends-Maduro, President of Casa Cuna's Board thanked the resort board and the Doctrow family on behalf of the children, and invited all to come to Casa

Cuna for a visit and a tour of the home. Pictured here: Faye Doctrow and son Rick Doctrow, Quilin Arends-Maduro, Carlos Albertus; William Mosconi, President of the La Ca-

bana Coop. Board and Board Members; Carl Hultman, Randy Pozniak, Gil Cooper, Gary Ehrlich and Anthony Wever, as reported Ena Vrolijk, guest care manager at the resort.

Sidebar changes Aruba's restaurant scene with its flavorful gourmet burgers

ORANJESTAD - Take a burger of one hundred percent prime Angus beef, add to that the freshest possible extras and tastiest sauces and voila: here is your gourmet burger. Sidebar, a newly opened, great restaurant in the Renaissance Marketplace in downtown Oranjestad, knows how to tease your taste buds with the best burgers imaginable.

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TripAdvisor - January 5th, 2015

Sidebar's signature burgers have been named The Sidebar, The Afterburner, The Goliath, The Texan, The Chaser, The Primal and The Italian Job and we are sure that everyone will be able to find a burger that calls out to them. The burgers come with brie cheese, prosciutto, Cheddar cheese, zucchini, sliced steak, Bourbon bbq sauce, dripping gravy and much more, depending on your order. The best thing is that these gourmet beauties cost less than \$ 15.-, so lunch or an evening out won't break the bank.

Feel love for Sidebar's burgers; they are bursting with taste—try them all and find your personal favorite. Come on down to Sidebar and rock your Wildest West with a fabulously tasty burger that packs a punch with its layers of flavor. And if you are not in a burger mood, then Sidebar has a wonderfully varied menu of all kinds of other options, ranging from vegetarian mushrooms and spinach to a zucchini cutlet to lovely salads, homemade soups, pastas and fish dishes.

Wash your lunch or dinner down with a premium, aged Bourbon or try the ice-cold beers on tap to slake your thirst. You can choose between Heineken, Balashi, Chill, Stella Artois, Miller Light or Presidente. Come inside, at the bar or sit outside on the terrace; at Sidebar there will always be a place for you.



Picture: "THE TEXAN" GOURMET BURGER



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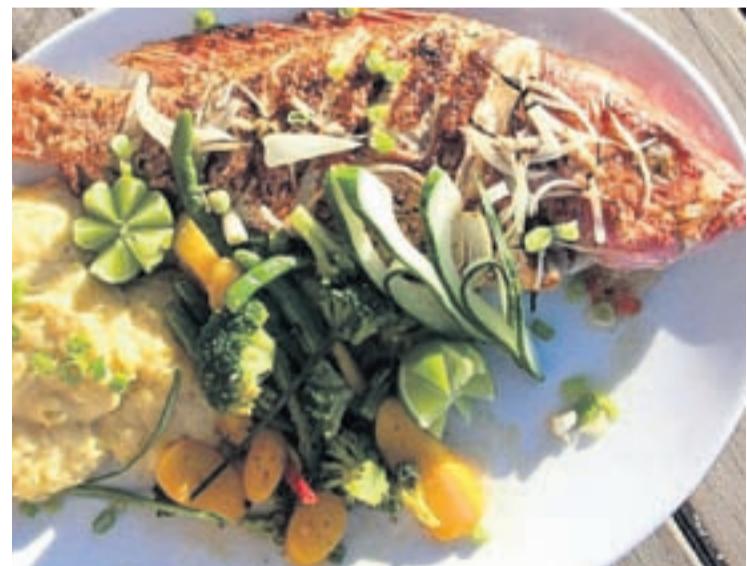
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At Bugaloe:

Aruban Fresh Fish Right Off The Coast!

PALM BEACH - Fresher than Fresh, is what you are served in the popular Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill, located at De Palm Pier, between the RIU Palace Hotel and The Raddison Hotel. Mondays will no longer be just another Monday. No! It's Crazy Fish Monday at Bugaloe! Beautiful colorful platter of exquisite fish, yellow rice and rich vegetables is what you will be served from Chef Hernandez' kitchen every Monday.

Whether choosing Fried Fish Basket for only \$15 or a delicious Red Snapper for \$20, you wish it was Monday every day! Bugaloe is known for fun and craziness, so it was only logical Chef Marc Hernandez likes to go wild when it comes to his cooking. Caught in the morning, served at night is the true Bugaloe way, maybe this explains its po-



pularity from the start. Crazy Fish Monday is served from 5.30 p.m. till 10 p.m. Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill is open daily from 9 a.m. till midnight. Start your day off right with a delicious cappuccino, or walk in to enjoy a casual lunch in between sunbathing. A few nights a week Bugaloe is host to some of the best live bands

of Aruba, while you are savoring dinner and enjoying the beautiful Aruba Sunset! Don't forget to make one hour in the day even happier at Bugaloe's daily Happy Hour from 5 till 6 p.m. Reservations are not necessary, just follow your hips to the music and the fun and smiles saluting you! □

SPORTS**Aruba TODAY**

Lindsey Vonn smiles on the podium after winning an alpine ski, women's World Cup super-G, in St. Moritz, Switzerland, Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015.

Associated Press

Lindsey Vonn heads home for world champs in winning shape

GRAHAM DUNBAR
AP Sports Writer

ST. MORITZ, Switzerland

(AP) — Exceeding expectations in her comeback season, Lindsey Vonn now heads to her hometown world championships injury-free and winning races in style.

That is a rare luxury, the Alpine ski star reflected Sunday, after running her women's World Cup wins record mark to 64 with an impressive super-G victory. Vonn's mastery of a tricky course setting meant only one racer, Olympic super-G champion Anna Fenninger of Austria, finished within a second of her winning time.

"This is definitely the healthiest I've been going into a big event, for sure," said the 30-year-old American, due to arrive home Monday in Vail, Colorado, one week ahead of the two-yearly worlds.

Vonn's pursuit of Olympic and world titles has often been hampered by injury and crashes in the days before racing.

Continued on Page 22

GIMME LOVE



Cleveland Cavaliers' Kevin Love grabs a rebound against the Oklahoma City Thunder in the third quarter of an NBA basketball game Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015, in Cleveland. The Cavaliers won 108-98 to extend their winning streak to six games.

Associated Press
Page 21



J.E. Irausquin Boulevard, 77, (ex-Westin Hotel) Tel: 586-3388.

Lunch & Dinner

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Murray beats Dimitrov, prepares for Australian challenge

JOHN PYE

AP Sports Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)

— After the clock ticked past midnight, Andy Murray became aware that it was officially Australia Day and he already knew from the crowd reaction what to expect in the quarterfinals. Murray, a two-time Grand Slam champion and three-time Australian Open finalist, fended off racket-smashing Grigor Dimitrov 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-3, 7-5 in a fourth-round match that started Sunday but continued into the early hours of Jan. 26, the national holiday that regularly occurs during the Australian Open. Midway through his match against No. 10-ranked Dimitrov, who beat him in the Wimbledon quarterfinals last year, Murray heard a distinctive roar that started somewhere in the distance and echoed through Rod Laver Arena.

"I heard a lot of noise — I had to ask my box what it was for," he said. It was for 19-year-old Nick Kyrgios, who came back from two sets down and saved a match point to beat An-



Andy Murray of Britain reaches out for a shot to Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria during their fourth round match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015.

Associated Press

dreas Seppi 5-7, 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (5), 8-6 on Hisense Arena — the No. 3 court at Melbourne Park — to become the first Aussie male to reach the last eight at the Australian Open since Lleyton Hewitt in 2005, and the first male teenager

since Roger Federer in 2001 to reach two Grand Slam quarterfinals.

Kyrgios has developed quite a reputation for his audacious blend of shots, for his crowd interaction, for his outbursts and for his results: as a wild-entry with

a No. 144 ranking at Wimbledon last year, he beat then No. 1-ranked Nadal in the fourth round. That was after he'd saved nine match points and come from two sets down to beat Richard Gasquet in the second round.

As a couple stood to leave Hisense Arena on Sunday during the fifth set — one in which Kyrgios let a 4-1 lead slip and then had to save break points — he called out to them: "Hey, where are you going?" The show, evidently, was not over.

His first words after the win, as the crowd continued to chant and scream like soccer fans: "Thanks mate. Feels so good."

"It's crazy," he said. "When I saw I had finally won the match it was incredible — it was the best feeling I ever had. It's just massive confidence."

Murray, who was broken when serving for the second set and lost the sub-

sequent tiebreaker, rallied from 5-2 down in the fourth set to beat Dimitrov, who shattered his racket on the court after surrendering his last service game.

Murray has a 10-0 winning record against Australian players, but hasn't come across anyone quite as precocious as Kyrgios.

"I would say maybe he's more confident than I would have been at that age ... he obviously backs himself a lot," Murray said. "I'm going to have to play a great match to win against him."

"He's had an unbelievable tournament so far and he's only going to keep getting better. Hopefully my streak doesn't end in a couple of days."

The high-energy night matches overshadowed the day session Sunday, when Nadal continued his comeback from a long-term injury layoff with a 7-5, 6-1, 6-4 win over towering Kevin Anderson to set up a quarterfinal against No. 7 Tomas Berdych, who had a 6-2, 7-6 (3), 6-2 win over Bernard Tomic.

"The chance to be in the quarterfinals after a tough period of time for me is a fantastic result," said Nadal, who didn't let a small thing like his superstitiously and carefully positioned water bottles being knocked over bother him too much. "I was playing better than the days before."

The way that I improved my level is not the most important thing; obviously the victory is."

No.2-ranked Maria Sharapova won the last eight games of her 6-3, 6-0 victory over Peng Shuai and will next play seventh-seeded Eugenie Bouchard, who had a see-sawing 6-1, 5-7, 6-2 win over Irina-Camelia Begu.

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Coach K gets 1,000th win as No. 5 Duke tops St. John's 77-68

By MIKE FITZPATRICK
AP Sports Writer
NEW YORK (AP) - Coach 1K. How grand.

Mike Krzyzewski earned his 1,000th career win Sunday, making him the first NCAA Division I men's coach to reach the milestone, when No. 5 Duke surged past St. John's in the second half for a 77-68 victory at Madison Square Garden.

Tyus Jones scored 22 points and the Blue Devils (17-2) went on an 18-2 run down the stretch to put Krzyzewski in four figures on his first try. Jahlil Okafor had 17 points and 10 rebounds, combining with Jones and Quinn Cook (17 points) to fuel the decisive spurt after Duke trailed by 10 with 8:15 remaining. That's when the Blue Devils finally began to look like a Krzyzewski-coached team, picking up their defense and hustling to loose balls as he urged them on from one knee in front of the bench. Duke outworked the Red Storm on the glass and held them without a field goal for 6 pivotal minutes.

When the final horn sounded, Duke players engulfed Krzyzewski, and he received a bear hug from assistant Jeff Capel. Players were given T-shirts that read "1,000 Wins And Counting." "We were so gritty in the last 10 minutes," Krzyzewski said. "It was tough to get involved with 1,000. I was just trying to survive this game, which is how you get to 1,000."

A public address announcement offered congratulations to Krzyzewski from St. John's, and Duke fans at a packed Garden chanted his name and held aloft "K" signs.

"I'm in it right now. I wasn't in it until now," he said. "You know, to see the hap-

piness of my players makes it good. We have to keep it in perspective. It makes us 17-2 and we've got to go to Notre Dame on Wednesday, but for this moment, for basketball, for the game and for this program, we'll enjoy this one right now." Sir'Dominic Pointer had 21 points and 10 rebounds for the Red Storm (13-6), who were looking for a huge win to put on their NCAA tournament resume. They were in position to get it, but got worn down late by Duke and let this one slip away. No. 1,000 came about 500 miles from the cramped and cozy confines of Cameron Indoor Stadium, but Coach K was hardly on unfamiliar soil. After all, Madison Square Garden was where he notched victory No. 903 against Michigan State in November 2011, breaking the Division I record previously held by his college coach and mentor, Bob Knight.

The 67-year-old Krzyzewski improved to 1,000-308 in a 40-year coaching career that began in 1975 at his alma mater, Army. He is 927-249 in 35 seasons at Duke, guiding the Blue Devils to four NCAA titles and 11 trips to the Final Four. The lively crowd of 19,812, mixed with fans of both schools, included about 15-20 former Duke players as well as Carmelo Anthony and Phil Jackson from the New York Knicks; St. John's greats Chris Mullin, Lou Carneseca and Felipe Lopez; and Nike boss Phil Knight. Around 30 minutes before the opening tip, rising ticket prices ranged from \$225 to \$888 on stubhub.com - which also covered admission to the Iona-Niagara doubleheader finale. By midway through an entertaining first half, Krzyze-

wski was on his feet as St. John's erased an 11-point deficit.

Wearing a blue suit and white sneakers to support Coaches vs. Cancer, Krzyzewski stalked after the officials at the end of the half to argue that D'Angelo Harrison's buzzer-beating 3-pointer came after the shot clock expired.



Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski celebrates with his players after his 1,000th career win in an NCAA college basketball game against St. John's at Madison Square Garden in New York, Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015.

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AP Explains: What makes the Super Bowl such a big deal

JOHN MARSHALL

AP Sports Writer

PHOENIX (AP) — The Super Bowl, at its most basic level, is a game that determines the NFL championship. It has become so much more since the first game was played in 1967.

Super Bowl Sunday has become an unofficial holiday in the United States, a day when families and friends to gather to watch the game, the over-the-top commercials and big-name musical acts at halftime.

The game and the two weeks of hype, parties and the annual Media Day leading up it have turned the Super Bowl into a spectacle along the lines of the Olympics or World Cup, a royal wedding or papal celebration, the Oscars or Grammys.

A rundown of what makes the Super Bowl so special:

FABRIC OF AMERICA

Baseball is known as America's pastime, but football is woven into the country's fabric.

The NFL's rise came at the same time as television's and turned into a \$9 billion enterprise. The NFL sea-



Torry Holt, Super Bowl XXXIV champion as a member of the St. Louis Rams, helps with the final delivery of the Vince Lombardi Trophy to NFL Experience Engineered by GMC on Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015 in Phoenix.

son has far fewer games than the other major North American sports — 16 compared to 162 in baseball — which makes every game an event.

But once the season gets to the Super Bowl, many of the fans don't get a chance to go. Tickets started around \$800 for this year's and

most are snapped up by corporations, creating an American version of the Prawn Sandwich Brigade, those European soccer fans who attend games for the corporate hospitality rather than cheer on the teams.

WHERE IT'S PLAYED

Cities bid for the right to

host the Super Bowl and many use the game as a rallying point to build a new stadium and bring in revenue.

The game is rotated every year, usually to a warm-weather city or one with a domed stadium.

Last year's game was played in the stadium the New York Jets and Giants share in East Rutherford, New Jersey — the first outdoor game in a cold-weather city — and future games will be in San Francisco, Houston and Minneapolis.

Arizona's University of Phoenix Stadium, site of this year's games, has a retractable roof and a field that is wheeled outside so the grass can get sunlight.

TELEVISION AUDIENCE

The Super Bowl is one of the most-watched events in the world, routinely drawing more than 80 million viewers every year since 1990. The game has eclipsed 100 million viewers each of the past five years, with a record 111.5 million watching Seattle roll over Denver a year ago.

Millions more watch the game around the world.

THE COMMERCIALS

Super Bowl commercials have become a part of the show, luring in non-sports fans who might not otherwise watch the game.

The trend of making get-

them-talking commercials started in 1984, when Apple created a memorable 1-minute spot based on George Orwell's 1984. Since then, the commercials have included talking animals and babies, supermodels and Clydesdales, sophomoric humor and tear-jerking moments.

The rate for this year's game is \$4.5 million for a 30-second spot.

GAMBLING

According to the American Gaming Association, Americans will place \$3.8 billion in illegal bets on the Super Bowl this year. Nevada sports books hauled in a record \$19.7 million in legal wagers on last year's game.

The Super Bowl also has some of the most exotic proposition bets anywhere.

For this year's game, bettors can put money on the what color Gatorade will be dumped on the winning coach, how long Idina Menzel will take to sing the Star-Spangled Banner, whether Patriots coach Bill Belichick will smile on camera during the game and the color of pop star Katy Perry's hair when she performs during the halftime show.

HALFTIME SHOW

The halftime show has become must-watch TV instead of just a throw-in with the game.

This year's halftime show will feature Perry and rock guitarist Lenny Kravitz, extending a long line of big-name performers that has included Bruce Springsteen, The Who, Prince, Madonna and Bruno Mars with the Red Hot Chili Peppers last year.

And, of course, everyone remembers Janet Jackson's "wardrobe malfunction" while performing with Justin Timberlake in 2004.

MEDIA DAY

Originally set up for media members to have access to every player on both teams, the annual Media Day has become an event in itself, a spectacle filled with sometimes-wacky questions and attention-grabbing stunts.

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LeBron outduels Durant, Cavs win 6th straight, 108-98



Oklahoma City Thunder's Russell Westbrook, back, knocks the ball away from Cleveland Cavaliers' Kyrie Irving in the first quarter of an NBA basketball game Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015, in Cleveland.

Associated Press

By TOM WITHERS

AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) -- The sold-out arena buzzed with 20,000 fans decked out in matching gold T-shirts. There was a national TV audience, two high-profile teams and All-Stars all over the floor.

It felt like the playoffs in January. LeBron James played as if it was June.

James scored 34 points, including the first eight in the fourth quarter, and the Cleveland Cavaliers beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 108-98 on Sunday for their sixth straight win.

James made a pair of 3-pointers and a nasty fade-away jumper to give the Cavs a 91-80 lead. Later, the four-time MVP fed Kevin Love for a 3-pointer with 3:38 left that put the Thunder away.

The Cavs, who seemed to be unraveling two weeks ago during a six-game losing streak, are now 6-1

since James returned after missing eight games with a strained back and knee. After going scoreless in the third quarter, James scored 12 in the fourth as the Cavs kept their momentum rolling.

"We're a confident bunch," James said. "But for us, we're a humble bunch. It's one game versus a very experienced team, a very talented team, a very good team that's been together for a while.

It shows that we can match up with some of the high-caliber teams."

Love added 19 points and 13 rebounds, Kyrie Irving scored 21 and J.R. Smith had 14 as the Cavs concluded a 4-0 homestand. Reserve Tristan Thompson grabbed 16 rebounds.

Kevin Durant scored 32 with nine assists and Russell Westbrook had 22 points for the Thunder, who went 3-2 on their longest road trip this season. Dion Waiters,

acquired from Cleveland in a three-way trade earlier this month, added 14, but the Thunder shot only 39 percent and couldn't get big shots to go down.

"We were a couple of possessions away from really turning the game to a different outcome," Thunder coach Scott Brooks said. "Give them credit. They're playing good basketball right now and they have three great players."

James sat out Cleveland's previous game at Oklahoma City on Dec. 11 with a sore left knee, and Brooks was hoping he wouldn't have to see No. 23 again.

"I want him to miss tonight's game too," Brooks said with a laugh before the opening tip. "I want every advantage I can get. He's not missing it, is he?"

Unfortunately for the Thunder, and the rest of the league, James is back to playing like himself after the two-week health

break. He is averaging 30.3 points in his past seven games, attacking the rim with renewed vengeance. His flurry early in the fourth was capped by a long 3 over Waiters, and James punctuated the shot with a menacing glare toward Oklahoma City's bench. The matchup between the NBA's past two MVPs - and teams expected to contend for the title - had

a playoff-like vibe. Both teams played as if there was more at stake. There were highlight-reel worthy dunks, hard fouls and some trash talking.

Waiters was booed when he came in as a sub in the first quarter. Cavs fans didn't appreciate his recent comments that he didn't touch the ball enough when he was in Cleveland. □



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Lindsey Vonn

Continued from Page 17

Her three career gold medals are outnumbered by four giant crystal globe trophies won for scoring the most all-around points in the grueling World Cup season.

To find Vonn in such good shape is remarkable after she twice blew out her right knee in 2013. First, in her opening super-G race at the previous worlds, held in Schladming, Austria, and a second which kept her from the Sochi Olympics.

"It's nice to finally feel healthy again," said Vonn, who has won five World Cup speed races this season. "After every race I have muscle pain and my knees hurt a little bit, but it's nothing new."

Still, she just won three times in a stellar eight-day span to prepare for a world championships staged on her local Beaver Creek course.

Vonn recalled feeling this good for a gold-medal challenge only before the



Lindsey Vonn celebrates in the finish area after winning an alpine ski, women's World Cup super-G, in St. Moritz, Switzerland, Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015. Lindsey Vonn mastered a tricky super-G race on Sunday for a record-extending 64th World Cup victory.

Associated Press

2009 worlds, when she took downhill and super-G titles at Val d'Isere, France.

This being Lindsey Vonn, she lacerated her right thumb on a broken chisel

page bottle at a sponsor's party to celebrate that downhill win and almost jeopardized the rest of her dominating season.

On Sunday, a super-G win

at St. Moritz repeated her feat of 2010 when it had seemed the perfect send-off in Europe for the Vancouver Olympics where she was expected to shine. Vonn did indeed win her Olympic downhill title five years ago, though only after injuring her right shin in training which added drama and uncertainty.

"Don't jinx me," Vonn said Sunday when asked about her star-crossed luck. "So, hopefully in the next training days nothing happens." Everything about Vonn's latest victory suggests she learned enough to stay safe before her first medal race, the super-G on Feb. 3.

Vonn found a fast racing line through a challenging set of gates. A tight turn into the finish tricked several rivals, including double Sochi gold medalist Tina Maze of Slovenia.

On crossing the finish line, Vonn raised both arms in the air and bowed to the cheering Swiss crowd who appreciated her impressive run.

Fenninger acknowledged being outsmarted higher up the course.

"It was really good skiing on the last two sections," the 24-year-old overall World Cup champion said. "I think that is the way you can beat Lindsey but it has to be for the whole run."

Vonn now leads the season-long super-G standings from Fenninger.

"Sometimes it's nice to be a veteran on the tour," said Vonn, who debuted in a World Cup slalom aged 16 in November 2000. "I knew a few gates that would cause trouble."

Such veteran savvy should help her manage the demands of being a home-team favorite for the two-week championships — the first on American snow since the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics.

"I know the limit and I know how to handle my schedule," said Vonn, who will stay in relative calm at the team hotel. "My whole family will be at my house so I want to separate myself." □

Defending champion Ogier wins Monte Carlo rally



World champion Sebastien Ogier of France, right, and his co-driver Julien Ingrassia of France, steering a Volkswagen Polo R, celebrate after winning the 83rd Rally of Monte Carlo, Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015, in Monaco.

Associated Press

MONACO (AP) — Defending world rally champion Sebastien Ogier of France began his title defense with a victory at the season-opening Monte Carlo rally Sunday, finishing ahead of Finland's Jari-Matti Latvala and Andreas Mikkelsen of Norway as Volkswagen swept the podium places. Ogier led Latvala by 42.8 seconds overnight and increased his lead after Sunday's three stages to finish 58 seconds ahead of Latvala and more than two minutes clear of Mikkelsen. "Winning Monte Carlo

means a lot for every driver, but especially for me," Ogier said after clinching it for the third time. "This event had the best atmosphere I have experienced on a rally. When I drove the stage close to my home village, the atmosphere was magical."

The 31-year-old Ogier was only interested in protecting his lead and drove cautiously, failing to win a stage Saturday or Sunday. "The important thing is to try to win the rally, not today's stages," he said. "It's the most important rally of

the season. The weather makes it a huge challenge but the satisfaction is great when you make it."

Citroen driver Mads Ostberg of Norway finished fourth. Retired nine-time champion Sebastien Loeb of France — driving as a guest at the race — won Sunday's penultimate stage and finished eighth overall. Britain's Kris Meeke won Sunday's opener — a short 10-kilometer (6-mile) trek — with Ogier finishing sixth and gaining a further five seconds on Latvala, who was ninth. □



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No quick fix for battery anxiety but plenty of workarounds

BARBARA ORTUTAY

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — At a cozy watering hole in Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood, bartender Kathy Conway counted four different phone chargers behind the bar.

Call it the scourge of the red zone or battery anxiety. Smartphone users are tired of begging to charge devices behind bars or hunting for outlets in airports and train stations. Where, oh where, is a better battery?

The common lithium-ion battery used to power laptops, cellphones and tablet computers has improved in recent years. Battery capacity has tripled since 1990, says K. M. Abraham, a professor at Northeastern University who researches batteries. But it's not nearly enough to keep up with the needs of gadget addicts who demand thin, lightweight mobile devices and use them constantly.

Two billion mobile phones were shipped worldwide in 2014, 75 percent of which were smartphones, says the longtime technology analyst and president of Creative Strategies, Tim Bajarin. Demand is growing by 10 to 12 percent each year. And all those users want to send email, play games and stream music and videos — all battery hogs.

"We are reaching the limit of what a good battery material can do," Abraham says. "Going beyond what we have now is taking a new understanding of chemistry, material science ... People are working all over the world on it, but there is nothing on the horizon."



In this Dec. 29, 2014, photo, travelers use a charging station at McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas.

Still, there are some options.

Companies recently showed off battery chargers and smartphone extenders at the annual gadget show known as CES. One that seems particularly convenient is the 911 Boost, developed by Florida entrepreneur Bernard Emano and his two firefighter sons. The small black square weighs only 2.3 ounces and is designed to be carried on a keychain. It has three different retractable jacks so it can plug into new and old model iPhones and any other phone that takes a micro-USB plug.

The \$30 device can only provide about a 60 percent charge for most phones, though. Ema-

no explains that a battery with more capacity would be too heavy for a keychain. His device can plug into a wall outlet while connected to a phone, so the phone and the charger can both recharge together. They're sold at 911Boost.com. Emano is in talks with retailers.

Chinese company ZeroLemon has a line of rugged smartphone cases for Apple, Samsung and LG phones that come with built-in battery extenders. A \$69 version for the iPhone 6, called the Rugged Juicer, will let you go up to three times as long before you need a recharge, according to spokesman Randyn Akiona. ZeroLemon also makes pocket-sized, solar

chargers that will restore a smartphone battery to full capacity in about three hours, when connected by a power cable.

"It's not for someone who needs a fast charge, but it will get you going" when there's no other power available, Akiona says. The SolarJuice chargers will take up to a week to recharge from the sun, although you can also plug them into an outlet. Qualcomm has extended battery life through more efficient software and hardware. Processors can handle sharper displays and cameras in phones these days without the battery itself getting much bigger. Among the power-saving advancements: When

one part of the chipset is in use, the rest gets turned off to save energy. The chipset also tries to store a lot of data internally so that it doesn't have to reach out constantly to the phone's memory banks.

Google, whose Android operating system runs on most of the world's smartphones, last year launched "Project Volta" — named after Alessandro Volta, the Italian physicist who invented the battery — a tool aimed at extending mobile battery life.

For example, waking up a phone's application processor can start consuming a lot of power, but a lot of apps don't need to do that constantly, says Dave Burke, vice president of engineering at Google who works on Android. A function called JobScheduler helps ensure that apps wait to perform non-critical tasks like updates when your phone is not connected to a power source.

"You are out in a restaurant with 10 percent power, you don't want apps to start updating," Burke says. Conway says she doesn't know why more people don't carry around external chargers known as power bricks. On cue, Ben Eells, a theater electrician sitting at the bar, pulled one out of his bag. He bought it on the crowdfunding site Kickstarter for \$70.

"It has LEDs built into it," he demonstrated. "I carry batteries around, but sometimes I forget to charge the batteries."

Next to him, a woman asked Conway to plug in her phone. She complied.

Such is modern life. □

Strategies:

The Strong Dollar Is Always Good, Except When It Isn't

Jeff Sommer**© 2015 New York Times**

U.S. Treasury secretaries routinely say that they favor a strong dollar, regardless of circumstances or economic conditions. And the dollar is strong right now, thanks in no small part to actions by foreign central banks.

The European Central Bank significantly loosened its monetary policy Thursday, in the process driving down the euro and bolstering the dollar. Measured against a basket of currencies, the dollar's value has soared 19 percent since May, and the momentum seems to be building.

"A strong dollar has always been a good thing for the United States," Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew declared not long ago, a position that he has restated frequently.

But is it really a good thing - for the United States and the global economy?

In 2011, Timothy F. Geithner, then the Treasury secretary, said, "A strong dollar will always be in the interest of the United States." He uttered that mantra even though leading economists at the time were noting that the dollar was actually weakening and the shift was in the U.S. best interest. A weaker dollar meant that U.S. exports were more competitive in world markets and consumption of imported goods was declining. In turn, that trimmed America's trade and budget deficits, stimulated the

domestic economy and helped to spur job creation. A weaker dollar was, arguably, one of the reasons for the health of the U.S. economy, compared with other nations. The stronger dollar that has resulted from that period of U.S. advantage could reverse some of the progress that the United States has made. That's not

potent symbol of America's global power, and U.S. government officials habitually bow to it, even when their comments aren't firmly linked to policy or geopolitical reality, said Eswar S. Prasad, a Cornell University professor of economics who is the author of the "The Dollar Trap," a study of the dollar's role in global fi-

United States."

Disentangling the factors that affect foreign exchange rates - and that make the dollar strong - isn't simple. Supply and demand in the marketplace can be masked temporarily by canny trading and improper market activities. For the most part, though, it appears that the dollar has strengthened for substantive reasons: It has become more attractive than other currencies, on a relative basis, because it's linked to the U.S. economy, which has been growing more rapidly than those of most other developed countries. What's more, the U.S. monetary cycle has diverged from that in many other countries: The Federal Reserve has signaled that it is considering interest rate increases, and it has ended bond purchases - or quantitative easing. That reflects the growth of the U.S. economy, a big contrast with Europe and Japan, which are struggling. Last week, the European Central Bank embarked on a new, 1 trillion euro (\$1.16 billion) campaign of quantitative easing, and it has been further lowering interest rates that are already extraordinarily low and sometimes in negative territory.

In Japan, the central bank has also been aggressively expanding its quantitative easing program and keeping interest rates low. Furthermore, the dollar has worldwide appeal as a "safe haven," a destina-

tion currency in times of global trouble. That role is likely to become more crucial now that the Swiss franc, another traditional haven, has begun to gyrate wildly in value. That has occurred since Jan. 15, when the Swiss National Bank eliminated the franc's peg to the euro and started charging banks interest of 0.75 percent to hold their reserves. The Greek elections Sunday, which have already unnerved financial markets, could well add more immediate luster to the dollar.

Whether this is truly good for the United States is another matter.

There are some clear benefits, which Prasad enumerated. Global money flooding into dollar-denominated investments tends to lower interest rates in this country. That typically makes home mortgages cheaper and a variety of assets more valuable, including houses, bonds and stocks. Americans abroad can buy more with dollars, and imported goods like clothing are cheaper. Add that to the windfall for consumers coming from lower oil prices, and it could stimulate the economy.

But there are obvious problems, too. There could be negative spillover effects in emerging markets, where corporate debt has increasingly been dollar-denominated. As that debt becomes more expensive in local currencies, financial stress is likely to heighten. □



A weaker dollar has been a reason for the relative health of the U.S. economy. A stronger currency could reverse some of the economic progress the nation has made.

(Minh Uong/The New York Times)

obviously a good thing for the United States.

Paying ritualistic homage to the dollar isn't limited to recent Democratic administrations. After leaving office, Paul O'Neill, Treasury secretary under President George W. Bush in 2001 and 2002, recalled those years: "I was not supposed to say anything but 'strong dollar, strong dollar.' I argued then and would argue now that the idea of a strong-dollar policy is a vacuous notion." No matter. The dollar is a

nance.

"The notion that a strong country always has a strong currency isn't something that many countries subscribe to," he said. As a continental power that doesn't rely on exports to the extent that many other nations do, he said, "the United States has been able to sustain the illusion of the importance of a strong currency, but, really, when the dollar is fairly strong, as it is now, it's a mixed blessing for the economy of the

Sony postpones earnings announcement, blaming hacking attacks

PAUL MOZUR**© 2015 New York Times**

HONG KONG - Sony said this weekend that it would delay the report of its earnings for the quarter that ended Dec. 31 as a result of the hacking attacks on its U.S. film studio, Sony Pictures Entertainment.

As those attacks led to public discussions about cybersecurity and geopolitics, and Hollywood's relation with the two - and as the story moved from Sony to North Korea to the Na-

tional Security Agency - it might have been easy to forget the scale of the disruption at the studio.

In a filing to the Financial Services Agency of Japan this weekend, the company said that after Sony Pictures shut down its entire computer network in response to the November intrusions, many crucial programs still were not running.

Sony Pictures' "financial and accounting applications and many other criti-

cal information technology applications will not be functional until early February 2015 due to the amount of destruction and disruption that occurred, and the care necessary to avoid further damage by prematurely restarting functions," the company said in the filing.

As a result, Sony is asking for an extension of a month and a half for its earnings report, although it said it would hold a call on Feb. 4 to update analysts and

investors on its operations outlook.

The announcement comes as cybersecurity remains one of the hot topics at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, where executives have been expressing concerns about the growing list of corporations that have been the victims of major attacks. In particular, the attacks on Sony have set off alarms because they were designed not simply to steal data and make money,

but to embarrass and disrupt the operations of the company.

Even though Sony will most likely have few concrete numbers to give investors on the Feb. 4 call, many analysts and investors will no doubt be dialing in, curious about the last line of Sony's filing on Friday: "While Sony continues to evaluate the impact of the cyberattack on its financial results, it currently believes that such impact is not material." □

Cradle to Ivory Tower



FRANK BRUNI

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Leaving aside all of the other good arguments both for and against it, I have one big problem with the proposal for free community college that President Barack Obama recently outlined and will surely describe anew in his State of the Union address on Tuesday night.

It's awfully late in the game.

I don't mean that he should have moved on it earlier in his presidency. I mean that our focus on getting kids to and through higher education cannot be separated from, or supplant, our focus on making sure that they're prepared for it. And we have a painfully long way to go in that regard.

College is somehow tidier to talk about; I talk about it quite a bit myself. It's an attractive subject for several reasons. There's a particular mythology and romance to college, a way in which it's synonymous with the passage into adulthood and with a lofty altitude of competence, knowledge and intellectual refinement.

It's totemic. And it comes with handy metrics: specifically, data showing that the acquisition of a college degree translates into various benefits over the course of a lifetime, including higher earnings. So we look to, and lean on, college as a way to increase social mobility and push back against middle-class wage stagnation.

That's important context for not only Obama's frequent invocations of college but also for a new report, "Expectations and Reality," by America Achieves, a nonprofit organization that does educational research, policy development and advocacy. I was given an advance copy.

It demonstrates, for starters, that while hope may spring eternal, it springs in error where college is concerned. Using a survey of hundreds of parents and looking at college graduation rates, the report concludes that middle-class parents who expect their kids to finish four-year college degrees are wrong more than half the time.

The same survey, conducted by the Benenson Strategy Group for America Achieves, revealed some cold-eyed realism amid that unwarranted optimism. More than 70 percent of parents

expressed the worry that their children's chances of achieving a middle-class lifestyle would be diminished if their grade-school education didn't become more challenging.

They're right. We need to raise standards. That's in fact what the Common Core is ideally about, and that's why the education secretary, Arne Duncan, under harsh attack, remains wedded to a certain amount of testing. High standards without monitoring and accountability are no standards at all.

The goal is to lift children from all income groups up - and to maximize their chances of success with higher education. Their failure to complete higher education isn't just a function of financial hardships and related stresses, though those are primary reasons. Academic readiness factors in.

Jon Schnur, the executive chairman of America Achieves, said that there's a significant difference in graduation rates between students who need remediation after they've enrolled and those who don't. The failures of elementary, middle and secondary schools shadow them.

Those failures persist, and they're demonstrated every three years when PISA tests - which compare 15-year-olds in countries around the world - are done. American kids tend to perform in the middle of the heap.

The America Achieves report, looking at PISA results from 2003 to 2012, which is when the tests were last administered, had a bit of good news. While American kids from middle-class families haven't markedly improved their international standing in math and science over recent years, kids from poorer families have done precisely that.

Poverty may well make educational advancement much harder, but doesn't prohibit it. If we take the right steps - including more aggressive recruitment and rewarding of exemplary teachers and the continued implementation of higher standards - we can help kids at every rung of the economic ladder.

"All of these need to be backed by funding," Schnur, who has advised the Obama administration on education, told me. "There are great examples of what works, such as quality preschool and early learning for low-income children."

In the State of the Union both last year and the year before it, Obama called for universal preschool (to no avail). Some studies have shown that disadvantaged children start falling behind even before that point. The moral is this: Education is a continuous concern and must be a continuous investment, cradle to Ivory Tower. If we don't recognize and act on that, our reality will never meet our expectations. □



Prisoners of the Saudis



ROSS DOUTHAT

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The Western response to the death of Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz al-Saud, king of Saudi Arabia and custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, followed two paths. Along one, various officials and luminaries offered the gestures - half-staff flags, public obsequies - expected when a great statesman enters the hereafter.

John Kerry described the late monarch as "a man of wisdom and vision" and a "revered leader." Tony Blair called him a "modernizer of his country" and a "staunch advocate of interfaith relations," who was "loved by his people and will be deeply missed."

Along the other path, anyone outside Western officialdom was free to tell the fuller truth: that Abdullah presided over one of the world's most wicked nonpariah states, whose domestic policies are almost cartoonishly repressive and whose international influence has been strikingly malign. His dynasty is founded on gangsterish control over a precious natural resource, sustained by an unholy alliance with a most cruel interpretation of Islam and protected by the United States and its allies out of fear of worse alternatives if it fell. Was he a "modernizer"? Well, there were gestures, like giving women the vote in elections that don't particularly matter. But Abdullah's most important recent legacy has been

counterrevolutionary, in his attempts to rally a kind of axis of authoritarianism against the influence of the Arab Spring. Did he believe in "interfaith relations"? Sure, so long as the other faiths were safely outside Saudi territory, where religious uniformity is enforced by the police and by the lash. Will he be "deeply missed"? Well, not by dissidents, Shiites, non-Muslims, protesters in neighboring countries ... and for everyone else, only by comparison with the incompetence or chaos or still greater cruelty that might come next.

But Americans should feel some limited sympathy for the late king because our relationship with his kingdom has something in common with his own. Like so many despots, Abdullah was to some extent a prisoner of the system he inherited, interested in reform in theory but unable to find the room or take the risks required to see it through. And we in the United States are prisoners as well: handcuffed to Saudi Arabia, bound to its corruptions and repression, with no immediate possibility of escape.

Much of America's post-Cold War policymaking in the Middle East can be understood as a search for a way to slip those cuffs. Three consecutive presidents have tried to reshape the region so that alliances with despotic regimes will no longer seem so inevitable or necessary. And all of them have failed.

For Bill Clinton, solving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict was supposed to be the catalyst - in ways never quite elucidated - for reform and progress in the wider Arab world. For George W. Bush, or at least his ambitious advisers, the invasion of Iraq was supposed to create a brilliant alternative to our Saudi alliance - a new special Middle Eastern relationship, but with an oil-producing liberal democracy this time.

For President Barack Obama,

there have been multiple ideas for how we might, as an administration official put it during our Libya campaign, "realign our interests and our values." The president has tried rhetorical outreach to transcend (or at least obscure) our coziness with tyrants; he tried, in Libya and haltingly in Egypt, to put his administration on the side of the Arab Spring; he and Kerry have made efforts to restart the Israeli-Palestinian peace process; he has sought some kind of realigning deal with that other font of cruelty, the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Iran project is ongoing, but so far all these efforts either have led (in the case of our Libyan crusade) to outright chaos, or have seen things cycle back to the same old stalemates, the same morally corrosive status quo. Here, Obama's experiences are of a piece with Bush's, albeit without the same cost in blood and treasure. From Saddam's Iraq to Mubarak's Egypt, from Libya to the West Bank, the last two presidents have repeatedly pulled the curtain back, or had it pulled back for them, on potential alternatives to the kind of realpolitik that binds us to the Saudis, and potential aftermaths to the dynasty's eventual fall. So far, they've found nothing good. Meanwhile, the Saudis themselves are still there. And since much of what's gone bad now surrounds them - the Islamic State very much in business in the north, Iranian-backed rebels seizing power in Yemen to the south - the U.S. interest in the stability of their kingdom, the continuation of the royal family's corrupt and wicked rule, is if anything even stronger than before.

Whatever judgment King Abdullah finds himself facing now, he is at least free of his kingdom, his region and its nightmarish dilemmas.

But not America. A king is dead, but our Saudi nightmare is a long way from being finished. □

Mutts



6 Chix



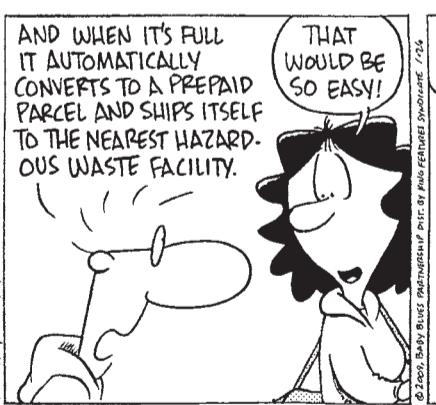
Blondie



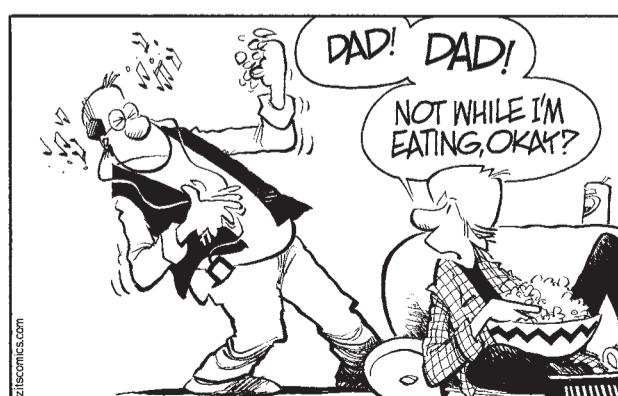
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Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		9					4					
4	5							2	9			
6		4		7				5				
3				1					4			
2	1	9	8	4	3	7						
7			6					8				
8	1								4	6		
							9					

Difficulty Level ★

1/26

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

4	9	3	7	2	1	5	6	8				
5	1	7	4	8	6	9	2	3				
2	8	6	9	5	3	4	1	7				
3	6	4	2	9	5	7	8	1				
9	5	1	3	7	8	2	4	6				
7	2	8	1	6	4	3	9	5				
1	3	5	6	4	9	8	7	2				
6	7	9	8	3	2	1	5	4				
8	4	2	5	1	7	6	3	9				

Saturday's puzzle answer

1/26

ACROSS

- 1 Web-footed furry swimmer
- 6 Bridge
- 10 Actor Vigoda & Mayor Beame
- 14 Handbag
- 15 City halfway between Dallas and Austin
- 16 First word in a warning
- 17 Cease-fire
- 18 5 ___ 20 is 4
- 19 Ferrer or Feliciano
- 20 Tennis shoes
- 22 The Thinker or Venus de Milo
- 24 Capsule
- 25 Arrived at
- 26 Insult; miff
- 29 Bridal path
- 30 "You ___ what you eat"
- 31 ___ up; prepares
- 33 Talent
- 37 Gather crops
- 39 Ferris wheels and carousels
- 41 Flooring piece
- 42 "Turkey in the ___"
- 44 Ne'er-do-well
- 46 Hightail it
- 47 Bottom berth
- 49 Ribs
- 51 Irrigated
- 54 Gigantic
- 55 Chairperson's schedule
- 56 Divide
- 60 Walking stick
- 61 Bean type
- 63 Leg bone
- 64 Smooch
- 65 Wrench or saw
- 66 Stories
- 67 Dollar bills
- 68 Caresses
- 69 On the ball

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1/26/15

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

C	O	W	S		M	A	D	A	S		S	C	A	M
O	V	E	R		A	L	I	B	I		H	O	S	E
L	E	S		R	A	C	E	T	R	A				
E	N	D		C	O	M	E							
K	A	Z	O											
T	A													
O	I													
I	L													
L														
T														
S														
E														

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1/26/15

34 Haughtiness	45 Boat race	57 Up to the task
35 Helpful hint	48 Riches	58 Bleachers
36 Griffey, Sr., and Griffey, Jr.	50 Antenna	level
38 Lack of healthy color in one's complexion	51 Pistachios, e.g.	59 "Krakatoa, ___ of Java", film
40 Arrange	52 Once more	for Maximilian Schell
43 Microsoft ___ writing program	53 Past, present or future	62 A, E, ___ vowel list
55 Mold	54 Makes well	
56 Air pollution	55 Stinking	

Classifieds

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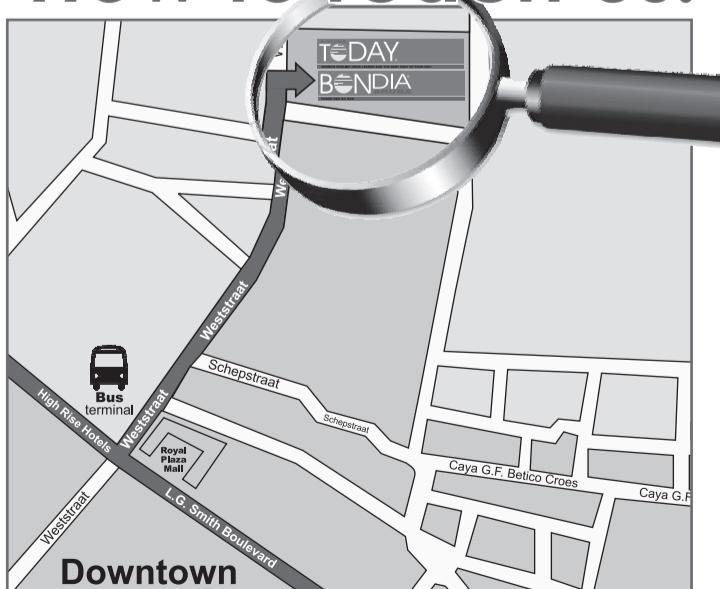


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Experts examine bones as Spain hunts for Cervantes' remains

BY JORGE SAINZ
HAROLD HECKLE
Associated Press
MADRID (AP) — Forensic

experts began excavating graves and examining bones Saturday in a tiny chapel in Madrid, hoping



A team of archaeologists and anthropologists take notes after starting the excavation work after identifying three unrecorded and unidentified graves in the chapel's crypt of the closed order Convent of the Barefoot Trinitarians in Madrid's historic Barrio de las Letras, or Literary Quarter, Spain, Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015.

Associated Press

Classifieds

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to solve the centuries-old
mystery of exactly where
the great Spanish writer
Miguel de Cervantes was
laid to rest.

The author of "Don Quixote" was buried in 1616 at the Convent of the Barefoot Trinitarians in Madrid's historic Barrio de las Letras, or Literary Quarter, but the exact whereabouts of his grave within the convent chapel are unknown.

A team of archaeologists and anthropologists decided to start excavations at the site after identifying what they believe are three unrecorded and unidentified graves in the chapel's crypt.

Cervantes is a towering figure in Spanish culture. His novel — "The Adventures of the Ingenious Nobleman Don Quixote of La Mancha" — changed Spanish literature. His wife, Catalina Salazar, was also buried at the convent, although the location of her grave also remains a mystery.

On Saturday, the chapel crypt had the air of a modern forensic laboratory transported to a medieval location, with more than 20

experts at work with white
lights under a vaulted ceiling.

By midmorning, some experts were examining bones that had been extracted from a niche and carefully laid out on a table. Another group of five white-clad experts painstakingly opened a grave beneath the whitewashed crypt's old terracotta tiled floor.

Close to the crypt's entrance, two scientists studied images obtained from within another wall niche by using an endoscope camera carefully inserted through a tiny hole.

Elsewhere, a team assembled a geo-radar device mounted on wheels to probe other possible underground locations.

"Were we to find remains that fulfill the characteristics we are looking for, we could possibly pass to a next stage. That would be to compare DNA similarities with his sister, but that is a very complex step," said Francisco Etxeberria, a forensic medicine specialist from the University of the Basque Country.

The author's sister, Luisa de Cervantes, was buried in a convent in Alcala de Henares, 30 kilometers (19 miles) east of Madrid, where she was interred in 1623.

Almudena Garcia Rubio, who is leading the Cervantes project, said Friday if they don't find Cervantes' remains in the places so far identified, there are four other possible locations at the convent they could try next. Evidence marking the location of Cervantes' grave is believed to have been lost during an enlargement of the church after his death. Etxeberria said, back in Cervantes' day, graves were not often marked with long-lasting memorials such as carved headstones.

Before settling down to work, the forensic team had to shift piles of old books and bookcases from the space, which had previously been rented out to a publishing company.

The first phase of the excavation, costing some 50,000 euros (\$56,000), is expected to last two weeks. □



'American Sniper' holds top spot at weekend box office



In this image released by Warner Bros. Pictures, Kyle Gallner, left, and Bradley Cooper appear in a scene from "American Sniper." Associated Press

DERRIK J. LANG
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "American Sniper" hit the mark with moviegoers again.

The military drama starring Bradley Cooper as Navy SEAL marksman Chris Kyle topped the box office for a second weekend in a row with \$64.4 million in first place, according to studio

estimates Sunday.

"American Sniper" is up for six Academy Awards, including best picture and best actor for Cooper. The total haul for the Warner Bros. film now stands at \$200.1 million.

"We've never quite seen anything like this at this time of year," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst at box-office tracker

Rentrak. "'American Sniper' is helping to propel the box office, which is already 9.3 percent ahead of the same time last year."

The film, directed by Clint Eastwood, already broke box-office records when it expanded to wide release last weekend, easily surpassing "Avatar" to become the biggest January opening for a movie and

immediately becoming the top grosser among best-picture Oscar nominees.

In a distant second place, the saucy Universal thriller "The Boy Next Door" featuring Jennifer Lopez as a teacher who engages in an affair with a younger man played by Ryan Guzman, debuted with \$15 million.

The weekend's other major new releases weren't even in the neighborhood of "The Boy Next Door."

The animated fantasy "Strange Magic" from Lucasfilm and Disney flopped in seventh place with \$5.5 million.

Lionsgate's Johnny Depp dud "Mortdecai" tanked in ninth place with \$4.1 million. The eccentric heist comedy, which also stars Gwyneth Paltrow, marks another box-office bomb for Depp, following the leading man's disappointing "Transcendence," "The Lone Ranger," "Dark Shadows" and "The Rum Diary."

"I think he chooses projects that appeal to him," Dergarabedian said. "I've always appreciated Johnny Depp for marching to the beat of his own drum, but he still needs to get audiences in the door. Sometimes, if you go too far afield, that's reflected in the numbers." □

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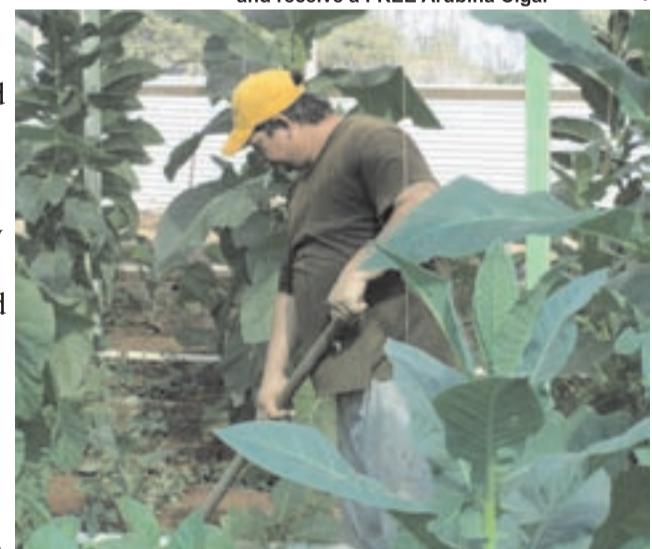
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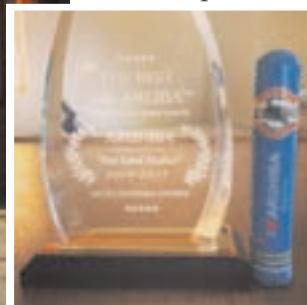
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Al Pacino looks to diversify, not retire from acting

LAURI NEFF

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Al Pacino says he can relate to Simon Axler, the lead character in his film 'The Humbling' — about an aging actor who worries he's lost his craft and his appetite for acting.

That's partly why he made the film. "I thought I had a better chance of making a movie that was effective because it was about a world I understood," the Oscar-winning actor said in a recent interview to promote the film.

Adapted from Philip Roth's 2009 novel, "The Humbling" was directed by Academy Award-winning filmmaker Barry Levinson ("Rain Man") and co-stars Golden Globe nominee Greta Gerwig ("Frances Ha").

At 74, Pacino says that at times he feels his age. "I do feel differently. I don't quite get up from this table the same way. I may want to but I don't."

Yet the actor says the similarities end there. Simon may be ready to give up acting but Pacino is not.

"Acting, especially if you've done it as long as I have," he said, "it becomes such a part of your nature you rarely ever think about quitting or anything like that."

The star of such iconic films as "The Godfather" trilogy and "Scent of a Woman,"



In this Sept. 21, 2014 file photo, Al Pacino arrives for the "Salome and Wild Salome" premiere in central London. Pacino, 74, stars in the film "The Humbling," about an aging actor who loses his craft and his appetite for acting.

Associated Press

which won him his 1992 best actor Oscar, says he's convinced there's another big role ahead of him, but adding, "I don't know if it's going to be in movies. ... Acting, it can take on different forms."

Pacino was scheduled to perform with the Philadelphia Orchestra this weekend, doing Shakespeare and personal readings. "That's a variation on a thing that takes acting and it's a little different," he explained.

Pacino will return to Broadway this fall to appear

in David Mamet's latest work "China Doll," even if he won't do the standard eight performances a week. "I wouldn't do eight performances if you paid me," he said. "It's too much. I gave that up a long time ago."

Television remains in Pacino's acting future, as well. The two-time Emmy winner ("You Don't Know Jack," "Angels in America") says he's looking into an episodic series that could stream on a service like Netflix or Amazon about Napoleon's final days on

the Island of Saint Helena. "I always found it was really interesting the last days, the last months of his life," said Pacino. While he's been offered a lot of different scripts, he said he's "never found the right vehicle" until he recently read "one of those series types."

He says the project is still in the "talking stages" but that Michael Radford, who Pacino worked with on the film "The Merchant of Venice," is interested in directing.

The actor says maturing

has also presented him with a new way to look at family, specifically how to raise his 14-year-old twins, Anton and Olivia, with actress and former girlfriend Beverly D'Angelo. Pacino, who also has a 25-year-old daughter with acting coach Jan Tarrant, says he has the younger children 50-percent of the time.

"My younger children I had when I was older and so that's something that I'm involved in, very much," he said. "Life has so much variety that acting is just a part of it now. It used to be all of it. Now it's a part of it."

The actor says he's fascinated how growing up with computers and the Internet have given his younger children a jump on their own creativity.

"My daughter showed me something the other day she did, just sort of in passing," he says. "She says, 'Here Dad, look at what I made,' and she made a video. Naturally it just had me laughing it was so funny, so interesting the way she made the shots too. She edited it, put it together, the whole thing."

Does he see another generation of Pacino performers in the making? "If I see there's talent, which I see there is, oh I would love it," Pacino said with a laugh.

"Who else is going to hire me when I get old?" □



Emily Nussbaum, Kristen Wiig, Jenji Kohan, Lena Dunham and Mindy Kaling attend the "Power Of Stories: Serious Ladies" panel during the 2015 Sundance Film Festival on Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015, in Park City, Utah.

Associated Press

PARK CITY, Utah (AP) — Lena Dunham dreams of the day when a man might say, "It's impossible to get into Hollywood. It's

an old women's network." The creative force behind HBO's "Girls" shared the stage with "The Mindy Project" creator Mindy Kaling,

Kaling, Dunham, Wiig, Kohan talk women in Hollywood

"Bridesmaids" star and co-writer Kristen Wiig and "Orange Is the New Black" show-runner Jenji Kohan for a discussion on women in Hollywood Saturday at the Sundance Film Festival. The four women weighed in on how they broke into the entertainment industry and the challenges they face as its minority gender. All said they realized early on that if they wanted to tell the stories they cared most about, they'd have to take the reins and do it themselves. And they

found TV a far friendlier environment for female voices than film.

"There's just a lot more opportunity," Kohan said. "It seems like film is really behind."

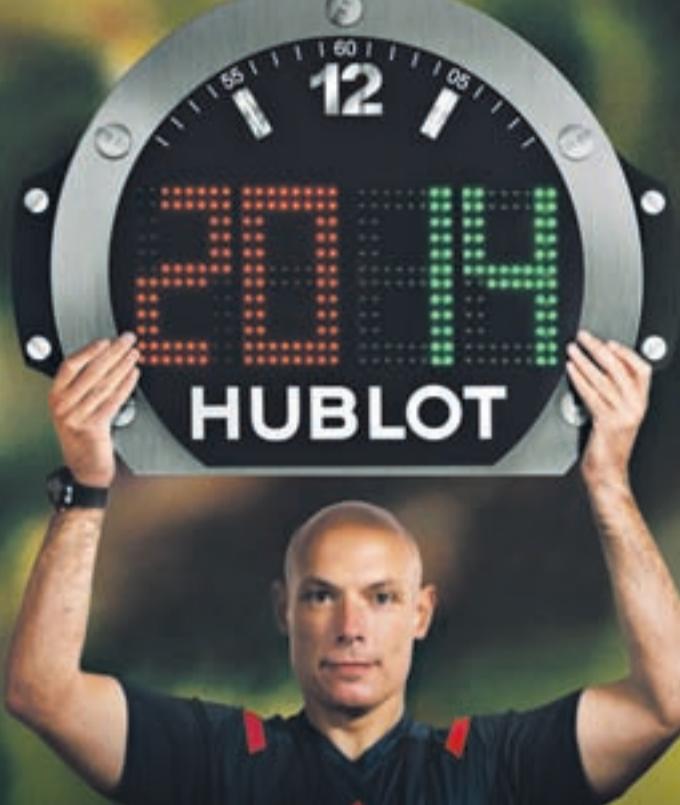
Even with the success of "Weeds" and "Orange Is the New Black," Kohan said the only scripts she's been offered to write involve "weddings and moms."

Dunham, too, said after earning acclaim for her first film, "Tiny Furniture," she was given opportuni-

ties to pen such scripts as "Strawberry Shortcake." She wasn't interested, so she created "Girls."

They hope their current successes help pave the way for other women with Hollywood dreams. All four rely on writing teams populated by mostly women, but they don't count men out.

"You shouldn't have to just limit yourself to one gender," Kohan said. "You want to work with whoever is the best at what they're doing." □



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